# REPORT

OF THE

# QUARTER-MASTER GENERAL.

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*To his Excellency* GEORGE F. FORT, *Governor and Commander-in-Chief of all the Military and Naval Forces of the State of New Jersey:*

The Quarter-Master-General of New Jersey respectfully reports the number and condition of the arms, equipments, &c., in the State Arsenal, *viz:*

Five thousand five hundred and sixty-two new brown flint-lock muskets.

Two hundred new brown percussion muskets.

One hundred and thirty-seven new bright percussion muskets.

Three thousand one hundred and fifty-nine muskets and rifles which have been in service.

Fourteen new brass six-pound ordnance.

One iron six-pound ordnance.

Two brass French four-pound ordnance, not mounted.

Three iron six-pound ordnance, not mounted.

Eighteen artillery swords and belts.

One hundred and ten dragoon pistols.

One hundred and thirty-six dragoon pistols which have been in service.

One hundred and twenty-two dragoon sabres and belts.

Sixty-five dragoon sabres and belts, which have been in service.

Five hundred percussion primers.

Forty-nine sergeant swords.

Four hundred and twenty-five strap and canister shot.

One hundred and twenty-three marquees and tents.

Fifty-six rifles, with thirty-nine pouches, forty-five flasks, and four swords received from Captain Townsend of the "Kossuth Rifles," Bridgeton, Cumberland Brigade.

Forty flint-lock rifles, with equipments, received from Captain R. F. Seaman, of the "Liberty Rifles," Orange, Essex Brigade.

Twenty-four flint-lock rifles received from Captain Hutchinson, of the "South Trenton Rifles," Mercer Brigade.

Twenty-five pistols received from the "Princeton Troop," disbanded.

Twenty-nine muskets, with equipments, received from Captain Harris, of the "Washington Blues," of Hudson Brigade.

Forty flint-lock rifles, with equipments, received from Captain Higginson, of the "Union Rifles, Newark," Essex Brigade.

Forty flint-lock muskets, received from Captain McQuade, of the "Irish Volunteers of Trenton," Mercer Brigade.

Twenty-one pistols and seven sabres, received from Captain Fritz, of Salem.

Fifty-seven rifles, with equipments, received from Captain Irick, of the "Vincentown Rifles," Burlington Brigade.

Sixteen percussion rifles, sixty pouches and belts, fifty waist belts, and twenty-nine flasks, forty-four cap pouches, one sword and four belts received from Captain Paynton, of the "City Rifles, Newark," Essex Brigade.

During the past year there have been issued by order of your Excellency, pursuant to the statute upon requisition,

Forty flint-lock rifles, with usual equipments, to Captain Robert F. Seaman, to the use of the "Liberty Rifles," Essex Brigade.

Forty percussion muskets, with usual equipments, to Captain Hugh McQuade, to the use of the "Trenton Irish Volunteers."

Ten bright flint-lock muskets, with equipments, to fill up order, to Captain Leukins, to the use of "Company A, Fourth Regiment, Essex Brigade."

Forty sets of equipments, to Captain Whelan, to the use of the "Fourth Regiment of Essex Brigade."

Forty bright percussion muskets to Captain Edward C. Hoerfree, to the use of the "Republican Grenadiers," Hudson Brigade.

Twenty-five percussion rifles, with equipments, and four sergeant swords, to Captain Joseph Fritz, to the use of the "Union Rifles," Hunterdon Brigade.

Twenty bright percussion muskets, with equipments, and four sergeant swords, to Captain George B. Osmun, to the use of the "Union Blues," Fifth Battalion, Essex Brigade.

Twenty-five bright percussion muskets, to Thomas W. Middleton, to the use of the "Stockton Guards," Bordentown, Burlington Brigade.

Forty percussion rifles, with equipments, and four swords, to Captain John Clark, to use of the "O'Brien Columbia Rifles," Essex Brigade.

Four sergeant swords to Captain Hutchinson, to the use of the South Trenton Rifle Company, Mercer Brigade.

Twenty-six percussion rifles, with equipments, and four swords, to Captain John M. Downie, use of the "Horace H. Day Rifles," New Brunswick, Middlesex Brigade.

Forty percussion muskets, with equipments, and four swords, to James C. Ogden, use of the "Newark City Guards," Essex Independent Brigade.

Twenty-six percussion muskets, to Captain Henry L. Sutton, use of the "Deshler Guards," of New Brunswick, Middlesex Brigade.

Forty flint muskets, with equipments, and four swords, to Captain John H. Whelan, use of Fourth Regiment, Essex Brigade.

Thirty percussion rifles, with equipments, and four swords, to Captain Moses Tompkins, use of the "Union Rifles, of Caldwell," Essex Brigade.

Forty sets of equipments to Captain McQuade, use of the Irish Volunteers, Mercer Brigade.

Thirty-two flint rifles, with equipments, to Captain Robert C. Helm, use of the "Morgan Rifle Company," New Brunswick, Middlesex Brigade.

Twelve percussion rifles, with equipments, to Captain Higginson, use of the "Union Rifles," Newark, Independent Essex Brigade.

Thirty-six percussion muskets, with equipments, and four swords, to Captain John B. Richmond, use of the "Emerald Guards," of New Brunswick, Middlesex Brigade.

Forty percussion rifles, with equipments, to Captain Seaman, to the use of the "Liberty Rifles," Orange, Essex Brigade.

With respect to the communication received from Major Hagner, of the Frankfort Arsenal, offering to change our "state arms from flint to percussion, if two thousand are altered, for eighty cents each arm, or not over that amount," to which your Excellency has called my attention. Your Excellency will recollect that it was a subject presented to the legislature by the military committees of the two houses, at the last session of the legislature, and two several joint resolutions reported, neither of which met the concurrence of the other house, and thus the project failed.

The terms upon which the ordnance department at Washington were willing to make the proposed alteration of our state arms, were at "eighty cents per musket, and the arms to be forwarded to the Frankfort arsenal, and brought back to the state arsenal, *at our expense*, of freight and porterage." These terms were deemed exorbitant and illiberal, which caused much dissatisfaction in the committees.

There were, at the same time, other propositions before the committees, on the part of gentlemen from New York, to do the same work of alteration to percussion, at "*seventy* cents per piece, and receive and return the altered arms into our state arsenal, *without expense to the state*, for porterage, transportation or freight."

This vast disparity of the terms specified, accounts for the failure of the resolutions, and of course there was no authority for specific engagement upon any terms involving expense to the state.

Your Excellency will recollect that besides the military stores at the arsenal, in good condition, and fit for service, we had also a large quantity of stock, of little value to the state and daily deteriorating, condemned as "*unserviceable*," a portion of which, in accordance with your approbation, and suggestion of the committees, have been disposed of since my last annual report, upon advantageous terms for the state; far better than we were ever able to obtain for the like stock, on any previous occasion, viz: three hundred "unserviceable muskets," at five hundred and twenty-five dollars, cash; one hundred at two hundred dollars, cash; and fifty upon the same terms, or in commutation for the work of altering into percussion, which was accepted, and two hundred flint lock muskets have been so altered, September 23d, in the most satisfactory manner, by the firm of Hitchcock & Co., of New York, at seventy cents per piece, free from other expense to the state, and the funds upon the cash sales are reported to the treasurer with statement thereof, and paid—less the amount of four small bills receipted for indispensable repairs to the state arsenal, collecting and delivering arms, &c.

All which is respectfully submitted,

SAM. R. HAMILTON,

*Quarter-Master-General of N. J.*

TRENTON, Dec. 31st, 1853.

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